

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently amended) An ointment external preparation for wounds for use in treatment of skin damages, comprising
 - a ~~water soluble polymer~~sodium polyacrylate in an uncross-linked state of 2 % or more based on the weight of the preparation,
 - a crosslinking agent in an amount of from 0.01% to 20% based on the weight of the preparation,
 - an iodine-based bactericidal agent in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% based on the weight of the preparation,
 - a fluidization agent, and
 - a sugar in an amount of from 5% to 70% based on the weight of the preparation, wherein the moisture content of the preparation is 3% or less based on the weight of the preparation,
~~the water soluble polymer has carboxylic group or sulfonic acid group in its structure, the sodium polyacrylate water soluble polymer in the preparation is in sol state before use, and then the sodium polyacrylate water soluble polymer simultaneously shows phase transition to gel after the preparation absorbs exudation in a wounded area of the skin,~~
the crosslinking agent is a polyvalent metal salt selected from the group consisting of an aluminum-containing cross-linking agent, a polyvalent metal chloride, a polyvalent metal bromide, a polyvalent metal oxide, a polyvalent metal salt of an organic acid, a polyvalent metal salt of a silicate, an aluminum-and-magnesium-containing compound, and a combination of at least two kinds thereof,
 - the sugar is sucrose or a sugar having a therapeutic effect, wherein the sucrose is selected from the group consisting of refined sugar, granulated sugar and white soft sugar, and the sugar having a therapeutic effect is selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, mannitol, fructose, glucose, xylitol, lactose, maltose, maltitol and trehalose, and
 - the iodine-based bactericidal agent is povidone iodine or iodine₂

wherein the preparation has an ointment form before its use and protects the wound, by transformation from a sol to a gel during use, with easy separation of the gel substantially as a mass after its use.

2. (Currently amended) The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the content of the sodium polyacrylate water-soluble polymer is 5% or more based on the weight of the preparation.

3-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the polyvalent metal salt is aluminum-containing crosslinking agent.

8-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the fluidization agent is polyethylene glycol.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) An ointment external preparation for wounds for use in treatment of skin damages, comprising

a sodium polyacrylate in an uncross-linked state of 2% or more based on the weight of the preparation,

an aluminum-containing crosslinking agent in an amount of from 0.01% to 20% based on the weight of the preparation,

a sucrose in an amount of from 5% to 70% based on the weight of the preparation,

an iodine in an amount of from 0.1% to 10% based on the weight of the preparation, and
polyethylene glycol,

wherein the moisture content of the preparation is 3% or less based on the weight of the preparation,and

the preparation has an ointment form before its use and protects the wound, by transformation from a sol to a gel during use, with easy separation of the gel substantially as a mass after its use.

16. (Previously presented) The preparation according to Claim 1, wherein the sugar is granulated sugar or white soft sugar.